

Region 5 SuperJTI 2001 Nomination
SAUGET AREA 1 & 2
Sauget & Cahokia, Illinois

Nomination #1

Both of these sites are located within the same general area between East St. Louis, IL and St. Louis, MO. Combining the two sites would provide a greater opportunity for employment and bring several communities together, increasing EPA's community involvement efforts and the public's opportunity to participate in EPA's decision-making processes. The sites reside with an Environmental Justice area and have a large population of minority residents near the site.

Sauget Area 1 & 2 Contacts: CIC - Leo Rosales (312) 353-6198
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SAUGET Area 1 Site Location: Comprised of 6 disposal areas (referred to as "source areas" and as Sites I, H, G, L, M and N). The Site also includes approximately 4 miles of contaminated creek sediments in Dead Creek. The disposal areas and Dead Creek are located in both Sauget and Cahokia, St. Clair County, Illinois. Most of the site area lies between Illinois Route 3 and Falling Springs Road.

TAG Contact: N/A

Site Description: The source areas occupy a total of approximately 40 acres of land and each source area is located alongside or in very close proximity to Dead Creek. There have been two removal actions completed at the Site and one removal action is currently pending. A removal action was completed by U.S. EPA on Site G in 1995, to address immediate threats to human health as a result of recurring fires on this landfill. A removal action is underway as of the date of this writeup (July 2000) that requires the PRP to replace various culverts on Dead Creek in order to alleviate some of the flooding problems. A third removal action will start in late 2000 and continue through most of the year 2001. This removal requires the PRP to excavate 50,000 tons of sediments from the Creek and then construct and place these sediments in an on-site TSCA containment cell. These source areas were used as industrial and municipal disposal areas starting in the 1930's for several manufacturing facilities in the area as well as by local municipalities. The sites (including Dead Creek) are contaminated with a large variety of organics and inorganics including PCBs and dioxins. Metals contamination includes arsenic, copper, lead, mercury, nickel, silver and zinc.

Site Status and PRP Involvement: Illinois EPA had authority over this site for many years. EPA took over the site about 6 months ago and is currently working with Solutia, Incorporated (St. Louis, MO) which was the only signatory to the AOC signed Jan. 21, 1999. The AOC requires Solutia to conduct a large amount of field sampling (conducted this past winter and spring) and to write both an EE/CA and RI/FS. It is unlikely we will see any full-scale remedial/removal actions at the site until at least the year 2002. Nevertheless, the site is located right outside of St. Louis where there is an

abundance of lead and asbestos abatement work available. EPA's oversight contractor is the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Rapid Response Team in Omaha).

The PRPs are using several contractors, O'Brien and Gere will be the consultant taking the samples.

SAUGET 2 Site Location: Comprised of 5 source areas (Sites O, P, Q, R and S) plus the possible later addition of two other sub-sites (Krummrich Plant and Route 3 Drum Site). Area 2 occupies approximately 344 acres of land. Most of the source areas are located in Sauget, Illinois, however part of Site Q lies within the Village of Cahokia and part of Site P lies within the corporate limits of East St. Louis. All of Area 2 is located west of Illinois Route 3 and extends over to the bank of the Mississippi River.

TAG Contact: N/A

Site Description: Very similar to Sauget Area 1. The source areas were used as disposal sites for several manufacturing facilities in the Sauget area including the Village of Sauget and its waste water treatment plant. Contamination is similar to Area 1 (organics and inorganics including PCBs, dioxins and heavy metals). A removal action was completed in 1995, by EPA along a small portion of Site Q next to the Mississippi as a result of flooding that scoured out the side of this landfill and sent drums out into the river. A second removal action was conducted on Site Q in 1999/2000 to remove approximately 3,200 drums and 17,000 tons of contaminated soil from this area.

Site Status and PRPs: U.S. EPA issued Special Notice to approximately 100 PRPs on June 23, 2000, for the conduct of a RI/FS at Area 2. Negotiations are currently on-going as of the date of this write-up. The RI/FS is expected to start in late 2000 continuing into the summer of 2001. Proposal of the Site to the NPL is currently on-going. Full-scale Remedial Action for this Site will likely begin late in the year 2002 or sometime in 2003.

Contractors: None (EPA will likely use the Corps of Engineers for all oversight work in the future)

Existing Job Training Programs: St. Louis Community College was awarded a Brownfields Job Training and Demonstration grant this year. They are conducting the environmental and technical training with St. Louis University. The trainees will come from both St. Louis and E. St. Louis. Belleville Area Community College in Illinois also conducts environmental training and worked with the DePaul University, the NIEHS grantee, with the NL Taracorp Superfund job training initiative.

Types of potential jobs: The Superfund site cleanup will afford heavy equipment operation (with the contaminated sediment removal from the creek) labor related jobs to assist in building the large TSCA landfill to hold the waste. The sediment removal work is expected to start in Winter 2000 and the landfill in Spring to Summer 2001, as weather permits. Additionally, St. Louis Community College, St. Louis University, Belleville Area Community College and Louis and Clark College (Godfrey, IL) have strong relationships with the Regional Commerce and Growth Association (RCGA), who

has the capacity to identify trends in the job market. RCGA is working very closely with St. Louis Community College on the brownfields job training grant and is working with Louis and Clark to establish a regulatory and technical environmental curriculum for companies. Lastly, there is a great need for both lead and asbestos due to the large efforts by both cities to cleanup and develop old abandoned properties. Both Counties on the Illinois side were awarded multi-million dollar Lead Hazard Paint Control grants by HUD and plan to begin the abatement of lead-based paint in both counties.

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